

**Hot Topics****Poor Air Quality Continues in New England**

On July 31, Greenwich, Connecticut measured an 8-hour average ozone concentration of 0.076 parts per million (ppm) exceeding both the 2015 and 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards of 0.070 ppm and 0.075 ppm, respectively. So far this summer, there have been 18 poor air quality days in New England.

**EPA Holds Public Hearing for Offshore Windfarm Air Permit**

On August 1, EPA held a public hearing for the Agency's draft Outer Continental Shelf air permit for Vineyard Wind's 800 MW windfarm off the coast of Massachusetts. One person offered a supportive comment during the hearing. The comment period ended, and the following four comments were received: the applicant requested technical clarifications; a concerned citizen requested additional study of the impacts the windfarm will have on fisheries; and two commenters were supportive of the permit.

**EPA Intends to Approve NH & CT Drinking Water Regulations**

On August 2, a Notice in the Federal Register was published announcing Region 1's intent to approve six Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) rules: one for Connecticut, and five for New Hampshire. EPA reviewed the states' SDWA primacy package documentation, determining that the states' regulations were no less stringent than the federal standards. If no public comments are received within 30 days, the states are granted primary enforcement responsibility.

**Mercury Release at Hamlet Street Nears Completion in Fall River, Massachusetts**

On August 7, the final round of screening was completed for the successful clearing of the source apartment for a mercury release in Fall River. In January 2019 a resident attempted to extract silver from dental amalgam and released high concentrations of mercury vapors inside the apartment building and liquid mercury onto the floor. In March 2019, EPA initiated a removal action that included temporary relocation of the building residents, disposal of mercury contaminated materials, and heating and ventilating of the building to reduce mercury concentrations to acceptable clearance levels for occupancy. The project has moved towards final clearance. After clearance is achieved, we will proceed with repairs to the source apartment so we can demobilize from the site shortly thereafter.

**Region 1 Settles EPCRA Action at Safety-Kleen in Bridgeport, Connecticut**

On August 1, 2019, Region 1 issued a combined administrative complaint and Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) to Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc. for violations of EPCRA Section 313. The facility receives and transfers used motor oil for recycling. Under the CAFO, EPA will receive a penalty of \$82,000.

**Region 1 Settles 112(r) Action**

On July 26, 2019, Region 1 issued a combined administrative complaint and CAFO to Elliott Auto Supply Co., Inc. (d/b/a Splash Products) for violations of the Clean Air Act General Duty Clause, Section 112(r) at its Ayer, Massachusetts facility. In 2016, there was a 7,000-gallon methanol spill at the windshield wiper fluid manufacturing facility that prompted EPA inspections. Splash Products will pay a penalty of \$197,075.

**Sustainable Materials Management Web Academy**

On July 31, Sustainable Materials Management staff organized a web academy entitled “Construction and Demolition Materials Markets: Identifying Opportunities Regionally and Locally”. The webinar was supported by the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division as well. Approximately 250 stakeholders participated in the webinar.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Nothing to report this week.

**Hot Topics****Three Governors in One Week in Puerto Rico**

Puerto Rico's Supreme Court ruled 8/7 former Governor Pierluisi was unlawfully sworn-in. Consequently, former Secretary of the Department of Justice Wanda Vazquez was sworn-in as the new unelected Governor of Puerto Rico – the Commonwealth's 3<sup>rd</sup> governor in one week.

**Saint Gobain-Performance Plastics Superfund Site, Hoosick Falls, NY**

The Hoosick Falls Community Participation Working Group (CPWG) has requested RA Lopez to participate in an upcoming meeting to discuss the actions EPA is taking on a national level to address PFAS. Other issues to be included in this engagement are the recent ORD stack sampling efforts (in terms of process, approach, results and analysis) and discussion of the provision of an alternate water supply, even where the existing supply has been effective. Consultation with headquarters to continue.

**Congressional Inquiry About Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company (Transco), New York Harbor**

Transco (Williams) is proposing to expand their transmission system via a pipeline loop from the Sayreville, NJ shoreline extending approximately 23.33 miles across Raritan Bay and lower New York Harbor to the Rockaway Transfer point located in the Atlantic Ocean, approximately three miles seaward of Rockaway, Queens. Transco plans to bury the pipeline and manage the dredged material from discrete areas at the Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) in the Atlantic Ocean and at upland sites. On 8/6, Congressman Frank Pallone's office contacted Region 2 to inquire about the general status of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit and the status of EPA's suitability determination for placement of the dredged sediments at the HARS. /On 8/7 Region 2 spoke with a staff member from Congressman Pallone's office about the issue.

**Lead Paint Issues in NYC Public Housing and Schools**

Region 2 is participating in meetings with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York (SDNY) and the NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA) to discuss continuing lead paint issues in public housing, and in meetings with SDNY and the NYC Law Department regarding reported lead paint problems in NYC schools. Last week the NYC Department of Education revealed that nearly 1,000 city classrooms in schools built before 1985 that serve students in pre-K and kindergarten have deteriorating lead paint that could potentially harm children, particularly those under six. Department officials have said they will "remediate" crumbling lead paint in those classrooms before the school year starts after Labor Day.

**U.S. Virgin Islands UST/LUST Program**

On 8/5, the VIDPNR UST/LUST manager informed Region 2 that DPNR's UST inspector resigned and is now working at another USVI government agency. There are no other trained UST inspectors at DPNR. Region 2 also was informed the grants and finance manager is departing DPNR effective 8/9. There are outstanding issues for DPNR's UST and LUST grants, including pending requests for NCTE's, budget updates for new awards, and implementation of DPNR's Hurricane Supplemental LUST grant. Since DPNR maintains a 2-year UST inspection frequency, the loss of the inspector is not expected to impact USVI's compliance with EPA's 3-year inspection requirement in the short term.

## **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

### **Acting Deputy Administrator Henry Darwin to Visit Region 2**

Acting Deputy Administrator Henry Darwin will visit Region 2 – at both 290 Broadway in Manhattan and our laboratory campus in Edison, New Jersey – on 8/13-14.

### **Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill Superfund Tour**

On 8/20 RA Lopez will join Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill and Region 2 staff on a tour of seven Superfund sites in her northern New Jersey district.

### **“Youth in the Environment” Graduation Ceremony**

On 8/16 Region 2 will join the NYC DEP, Bronx Community College, Woodycrest Center for Human Development and the National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE) for the “Youth in the Environment” graduation ceremony. The summer internship program provides young people an opportunity to gain experience in wastewater treatment.

**Hot Topics****PES Fire and Explosion Update, Philadelphia PA**

On August 1, Region 3 added four additional stationary hydrogen fluoride (HF) monitors around the perimeter of the Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) refinery in anticipation of the neutralization of approximately 35,000 gallons of hydrofluoric acid by PES to begin on August 5. Two of these four monitors are located on the perimeter of the refinery closest to the nearest residential homes. The eight monitors read continuously, and recordings are viewed remotely on computer screens. The city has an emergency plan in place in the event of a release both within and beyond the refinery boundaries. Region 3 staff be at the refinery during the first few days of neutralization. The eight monitors are scheduled to run throughout the neutralization process; which is estimated to require a duration of three weeks.

**Draft UIC Permit Modification issued to Windfall Oil and Gas, Inc.**

On July 29, a proposed permit modification was issued for Windfall Oil and Gas of Falls Creek, Pennsylvania. The modification would effectively extend the permit for an additional five years. The modified permit expires on July 30, 2025. The permit would allow for the subsurface disposal of fluids produced in association with Windfall oil and gas operations. The draft permit has a 30-day public notice period in which citizens can comment on the permit or request a hearing. The public notice period will end on August 28. The public notice, draft permit, and supporting documentation can be viewed [here](#).

**Region 3 Meeting with Federal, State, and Local Officials about Palmerton Zinc Superfund Site, PA**

On August 8, Region 3 staff will meet with Palmerton Borough Manager and council members to discuss the installation of monitoring wells to conduct a remedial investigation of groundwater at the Palmerton Zinc Superfund Site. There has been some contention about the location and installation of these monitoring wells for the past three years. While EPA has been in negotiations with the PRP and the Borough to address concerns related to the drilling and placement of the monitoring wells, Borough Manager Donna McGarry asked PA Senator Toomey's and Congressman Meuser's staff to convene a meeting with EPA to discuss the matter. Also, in attendance will be staff from PA Senator Casey's Lehigh Valley District Office, PA State Representative Doyle Heffley, staff from PA Senator Yudichak's office, and officials from the Palmerton Municipal Authority.

**Reuse Discussion with Stakeholders and Site Visit at the Safety Light Corporation Superfund Site, Bloomsburg, PA**

On July 30, Region 3 and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) met EPA's contractor, Skeo, at the Site to provide an overview of the Site. Following the Site visit, EPA, PADEP, and Skeo met with the Central Columbia County School District (CCSD) superintendent and school board officials to discuss the potential recreational reuse of the property as athletic fields. Following the meeting with CCSD, a separate meeting was held with South Centre Township and Columbia County local officials to discuss the reuse of the property. In lieu of potential athletic fields, local officials indicated a desire to place the property back on the tax rolls by planning potential future reuse around light commercial/industrial activities. Both meetings were informative indicating a desire by all to place the property back into reuse. Next steps will involve further discussions with DRIVE, an economic development entity for Columbia and Montour Counties, to discuss potential future reuse of the property. Skeo will prepare a draft reuse assessment that will be shared with the stakeholders and a future working meeting will be planned with all stakeholders.

**Region 3 files Consent Agreement and Final Order with the U.S. Government Publishing Office**

On July 25, EPA filed a multi-media CAFO with the GPO based in Washington, DC to settle violations of the CAA and RCRA hazardous waste requirements, coordinating with the District of Columbia Dept. of Energy and the Environment (DOEE) throughout the enforcement process. As a result of this case, the enforcement team was able to resolve SPCC and stormwater violations. GPO is responsible for printing the Federal Register, as well as printing, collecting, and disseminating a wide range of government documents. As part of the CAFO, GPO agreed to incorporate the following: reduction of VOCs and particulate matter emissions; improved management of hazardous waste storage through training; improved oil management system; a new SPCC plan, and payment of a \$140,000 penalty.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio has the following events scheduled:

- August 12 Chesapeake Bay Principals' Staff Committee, Phone Conference
- August 15 American Dairy Association- "Dairying for Tomorrow" Award Ceremony, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA.

### **Hot Topics**

#### **Ethylene Oxide**

**Key Message:** Region 4 continues to field inquiries focused on EtO concerns at two Georgia sterilizer facilities, Sterigenics in Cobb County and Becton Dickson in Covington, Georgia. Regional staff have engaged with OAQPS, HQ, local officials, and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to plan two community sessions and open houses planned for August 19<sup>th</sup> (Cobb and Fulton counties) and August 20<sup>th</sup> (Newton and Morgan Counties). Media interest is high. Smyrna and Covington, GA. Open Press.

#### **Yazoo Backwater**

**Key Message:** As a follow-up to the meeting on August 2<sup>nd</sup> with the Office of Water and the Corps, Region 4 has provided a revised draft letter to the Office of Water for review. The letter outlines the technical data, information, and analysis that EPA needs from the Corps in order to re-evaluate the 2008 404(c) Final Determination. The letter is targeted to be issued to the Corps by August 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Terry Creek Update**

**Key Message:** On August 1<sup>st</sup>, DOJ, on behalf of EPA, filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia Brunswick Division, a Motion to Enter the Consent Decree for an interim action to address a portion of the Terry Creek Dredge Spoil Areas/Hercules Outfall Superfund Site in Brunswick, Georgia. The CD is subject to review and approval of the Court.

#### **Georgia Coal Combustion Residuals Program**

**Key Message:** On August 6<sup>th</sup>, the region and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division co-hosted a public hearing regarding the Georgia CCR Permit Program. The hearing was very successful, with approximately 55 people attending the meeting and 40 people providing oral comments; a number of written comments were also received. The public comment period for the proposed approval of the GA CCRPP closes on August 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

**DOE/EPA/ECOS Dialogue Meeting** - On August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, RA Walker will be providing the opening remarks at the National DOE/EPA/ECOS Dialogue meeting in Paducah, Kentucky. A tour of the Paducah facility will also be incorporated for attendees. Participation is anticipated from Steven Cook, OLEM, and Karin Leff, FFRRO.

#### **Tennessee Products Superfund Site (Chattanooga, TN)**

Notice of Deletion has been signed and is being routed for publication within the Federal Register.

#### **Hollywood Dump and Miami Drum Superfund Sites achieved SWRAU status**

Region 4 has met 7 of 10 targeted for FY19.

**Hot Topics****Redesignation of Columbus Area for 2015 Ozone Standard**

Key Message: The proposal to redesignate the Columbus ozone nonattainment area received no adverse comments, so final redesignation is moving forward. The Region is working with Ohio EPA and local stakeholders to plan an announcement event for later in August.

A final redesignation notice has been drafted and has been routed to the regional administrator for signature. In addition to the significant improvements in public health resulting from lower ozone levels, redesignation to attainment also gives the state and industry flexibility. Fewer permitting and emission control requirements enhances the ability to attract new businesses and promotes economic growth. This is the first area in the country to be redesignated for the 2015 ozone standard.

**Region 5 to Award Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision Additional \$272,272 in Clean Diesel Funding**

Key Message: The Diesel Emission Reduction Act funding will be awarded to SDEV to support clean diesel vehicle/equipment replacement projects within the Detroit/Toledo/Windsor trade corridor, including Southwest Detroit. SDEV had previously received a \$1.8 million grant for the project.

This project will result in a reduction in pollutants emitted from diesel engines, improved air quality, and reduced exposure to harmful diesel exhaust in an environmental justice area which includes a nonattainment area for SO<sub>2</sub>, and a maintenance area for PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> and high asthma rates. The Region will be participating in an event with SDEV on Aug. 16 to highlight what has already been accomplished and to announce the additional funding.

**RA Stepp Hosts Ill. Farm Bureau**

Key Message: Region 5 leadership met with the Illinois Farm Bureau and approximately a dozen farmers.

This opportunity is a result of past meetings with ILFB and the Region's ongoing commitment to improving communication with the agricultural industry. The meeting was intended to promote better understanding of the challenges of the regulated community and hear directly from producers themselves, while offering EPA a chance to provide updates on current priorities. Highlights included discussions on nutrients and water quality (including water quality trading concepts) and opportunities for future partnership.

**Community Advisory Group Launched for Wolverine World Wide Tannery Site in Rockford, Mich.**

Key Message: The Wolverine CAG will serve as a public forum for all interested parties to learn about site cleanup from EPA and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; discuss needs and concerns; and develop community-based recommendations.

EPA and EGLE are coordinating their investigation and cleanup of tannery pollution found in the Rockford and Belmont, Mich., areas. The contamination comes from Wolverine World Wide's former tannery in Rockford and a waste dump known as the House Street Disposal Area in Belmont. Contaminants include per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS. The pollution also contains heavy metals, volatile organic compounds, or VOCs, and semi-volatile



organic compounds, or SVOCs. Pollution has affected groundwater, so filters and bottled water have been provided to impacted residents. EGLE remains the lead agency investigating PFAS contamination in groundwater, surface water, and drinking water. EPA is directing the investigation of other contamination that may be associated with Wolverine's former tannery and the House Street Disposal Area.

#### **State of Wisconsin Has Requested PCB Cleanup Variance/Disaster Guidance**

Key Message: Due to severe weather that impacted the state in July, on August 7, the state of Wisconsin requested a variance from Region 5 to extend PCB cleanup response time limits under the PCB Spill Cleanup Policy and the ability to dispose of PCB wastes based on as-found concentrations.

On July 21, the governor of Wisconsin declared a State of Emergency Due to Extreme Severe Weather. Large portions of the state experienced high winds, large hail, and heavy rains on July 19-20. Additionally, 14 confirmed tornadoes caused damage to local infrastructure, including utility lines and other electrical equipment. The intensity, number of tornadoes, size of the area impacted, and the geography have made utility recovery efforts extremely difficult. In response to the state's request and in accordance with OGC guidance, Region 5 will provide notification to the director of ORCR of its intent to issue PCB Disaster Waste Cleanup Guidance to the state of Wisconsin, allowing for a variance from the PCB Spill Cleanup Policy.

#### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

##### **Region 5's Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Division Management to Meet with Flint Mayor on Aug. 12**

Key Message: The meet-and-greet will also feature a discussion regarding the city's progress in satisfying the Safe Drinking Water Act emergency order.

##### **EPA to Host Amphenol Open House on Aug. 14**

Key Message: The open house will feature updates on the upcoming sewer work being completed by Amphenol Corp. and city of Franklin, Ind.

##### **Aug. 16 Buffalo Reef Tour in Grand Traverse Harbor, Mich.**

Key Message: GLNPO director will be traveling to Grand Traverse Harbor to tour the GLRI-funded dredging project.

Dredging of stamp sands, a copper mining waste product, in Grand Traverse Harbor began earlier this summer and is underway until the end of the year. The stamp sands are a threat to Lake Superior's Buffalo Reef, a crucial fish spawning habitat. GLNPO Director Chris Korleski is traveling to Grand Traverse Harbor to tour the site and view the reef from a local university's research vessel.

**Hot Topics****Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico**

On August 7, EPA held technical discussions with NMED on hydrogeology and groundwater modeling needs to address PFAS at Cannon AFB. The meeting was productive, with NMED providing a list of areas where they would like technical assistance.

**Chevron Questa Mine Superfund Site, New Mexico**

Region 6 is preparing to respond to NMED's letter requesting several interim measures during the regulatory consolidation process through a Record of Decision amendment. As to the current NPDES permit which is administratively continued, we will confer with the state on its status during the consolidation process. And as long as the current NPDES permit is in effect, compliance inspections will continue under it. EPA expects that NMED's costs associated for this consolidation would be reviewed for consideration for reimbursement.

**Tar Creek, Ottawa County, Oklahoma**

On August 19, EPA, in cooperation with the state of Oklahoma and the Quapaw Nation, will release the final Tar Creek Superfund Site Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan provides an update on the cleanup progress and outlines how EPA, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, the Quapaw Nation, and the Tar Creek community will work to improve progress in addressing mining waste and contamination at the site.

**Mercury Spill Response, DeQuincy, Louisiana**

EPA continues the emergency removal action of a mercury release within a residence in DeQuincy, LA. The release originally occurred in early May with three children spilling a vial containing 16 fluid ounces of mercury throughout the house. The children experienced health issues, and all three were hospitalized. After the material was spilled in the first residence, contaminated clothing and bedding were taken to three more homes belonging to family and neighbors, as well as a hospital. Due to the complexity of locating and removing all the mercury that was spread through the houses, the response is expected to take up to another week to complete.

**Mosaic Uncle Sam, Convent, Louisiana**

As early as August 12, EPA, in consultation with LDEQ, plans to issue a RCRA 7003 order to Mosaic for imminent and substantial endangerment posed by the potential release of untreated process wastewater should a catastrophic storm/hurricane occur. The order requires Mosaic to submit a plan to be able to treat process wastewater for either deep well injection or offsite release within 48 hours of a triggering event.

**Bird Creek Settlement, Pawhuska, Oklahoma**

As early as August 14, EPA is planning to issue public notice in the Pawhuska, Oklahoma, newspaper on the various permitting actions to implement the recently-signed Bird Creek settlement. The 35-day public comment period will include a public hearing 30 days after notice publication. The anticipated date for the hearing is September 17.

**Ethylene Oxide, Texas**

By August 23, TCEQ will close its 45-day public comment period on its proposed revised state effects screening level (ESL) for ethylene oxide and expects to complete peer review within 6 months (December 31). TCEQ is also planning to submit comments both on the industry Request for Correction on the ethylene oxide EPA IRIS value and on EPA proposed MACT rules that mention ethylene oxide. LDEQ has a state ambient air standard for ethylene oxide of 1.00 ug/m<sup>3</sup> annual average.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events****Fair Grounds Race Course, New Orleans, Louisiana**

On Monday, August 12, Region 6 intends to send a scheduling letter for the CWA referral if there is not sufficient progress in negotiations. These letters provide the company with a reasonable amount of time to conclude pre-filing negotiations, and a commitment by EPA to intensively negotiate through this period. The letter also schedules a date at the end of this period for anticipated filing of a court Complaint, if negotiations have not satisfactorily completed. The proposed letter provides Churchill with a period through Sept 30 to complete pre-filing negotiations on key terms of settlement.

**New Mexico Statutes SIP, New Mexico**

On August 13, a decision by EPA is expected on the final approval of revisions to New Mexico's SIP, which incorporates revisions to the state's statutory authority. The City of Albuquerque commented on the proposal. The Region has had discussions with both NMED and the city, and this final action incorporates additional portions of the statute to address comments.

**Arkansas NAAQS Major Source Permitting SIP Revision, Arkansas**

On August 13, EPA intends to approve a final action on the ADEQ NSR/Regulation 19 and 26 regulatory revisions. No comments were received on the proposed action.

**Arkansas Regional Haze Phase II SIP Revision, Arkansas**

By August 30, EPA anticipates final approval of the Arkansas Regional Haze Phase II SIP revision. On December 31, the comment period for EPA's proposed approval closed and adverse comments were submitted. The SIP revision addresses SO<sub>2</sub> and PM BART requirements for electric generating units (EGUs) and reasonable progress requirements for SO<sub>2</sub> and PM emissions and will replace a portion of the existing FIP.

- August 25-27 IOGCC Annual Conference, Medora, North Dakota
- September 4 Texas Industry Project Meeting, Houston, Texas

**Hot Topics****St. Joseph Lead Education Stakeholder Summit on August 6, 2019**

Key Message: This meeting brought together federal, state, local and community group partners to discuss the next steps in the fight against lead poisoning in St. Joseph, Missouri and recognize resources and potential partnerships. The meeting was opened by the mayor of St. Joseph, followed by remarks from EPA Region 7 Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford. The meeting concluded with a roundtable with the HUD regional administrator and ATSDR regional director. A working session followed.

**WIBW Radio Ag Issues Show Live Phone Interview with RA on August 8, 2019**

Key Message: One of EPA Region 7's priorities is to develop strong partnerships and create certainty in the agriculture sector through focused outreach, targeted compliance assistance, and judicious enforcement to ensure chemical safety and deliver cleaner water, air, and land in Region 7.

- The Regional Administrator participated in the morning segment of WIBW's Ag Issues program. The interview was live and last approximately 14 -16 minutes with weather/commercial breaks occurring throughout.
- The interview was conducted by Greg Akagi, WIBW Ag & Sports Reporter. He asked to speak about the sulfoxaflo registration, year-round sales of E-15 (noting KC's exemption) and other EPA Region 7 Ag initiatives.

**Cherokee County Operable Unit 04 PRP Remedial Action complete**

Key Message: This milestone marks the completion of the remedial activities at the Robinson and Jarrett parcels in OU 04, Treece subsite, of the Cherokee County Superfund site in Cherokee County, Kansas.

- This Remedial Action was completed on August 2, 2019.
- The Robinson and Jarrett Mine Parcels are different mine waste piles on different parcels in OU 04, Treece subsite, of the Cherokee County Superfund site in the Tri-State Mining District.
- The selected remedy for OU 04 was designed to address potential human health and ecological risks by the remediation of surficial mine wastes and contaminated soils above cleanup levels for lead, zinc, and cadmium.
- This PRP-lead remedial action included the cleanup of approximately 158,000 cubic yards of waste materials and returning 70 acres to beneficial use.

**West Lake Landfill Status Update**

Key Message: The EPA is reviewing and preparing comments on responsible party deliverables.

- On August 3, 2019, EPA received the OU1 Remedial Design Work Plan and on August 5, 2019, EPA received the OU1 Design Criteria Report. These documents are under review within Region 7 as well as by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. EPA has also provided these documents to the St Louis Airport Authority for their review of sections of the documents related to Wildlife hazard mitigation plans.
- After receiving all comments on the draft Emergency Management and Site Management plans, Region 7 will prepare a comment letter to send to the responsible parties the week of August 19, 2019.
- Region 7 is also in the process of combining comments from external reviewers, including the US Geological Survey, the US Army Corps of Engineers, National Analytical Radiation

Environmental Laboratory, and MDNR, into a letter to the responsible parties. This will provide comments on the OU3 (Groundwater) Remedial Investigation draft RI Workplan, Field Sampling Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan.

- On August 6, 2019, an OU-3 West Lake Update on the RI/FS Process was sent out to the community mailing list and posted to the West Lake Landfill Site Profile Page on August 7, 2019.

### **Region 7 Local Emergency Planning Committee Emergency Planning and Response Conference**

Key Message: EPA Region 7's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division is hosting its biannual LEPC Emergency Planning and Response Conference in Omaha, Nebraska on August 8-10, 2019.

- This conference brings together experts from business, industry, and government in the fields of chemical emergency, preparedness, prevention, transportation as well as health and safety in an effort to education about protection from chemical risks and promotion of chemical safety.
- Management and staff from Region 7's ECAD and Superfund and Emergency Management Division are supporting this conference in multiple capacities, including as speakers, presenters, and panel members.

### **41st Annual Blacks in Government National Training Institute**

Key Message: On August 6, 2019, Deputy Regional Administrator Ed Chu participated in the EPA Agency Forum at the 41st Annual Blacks in Government National Training Institute in Dallas, Texas.

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

#### **Iowa Farm Environmental Awards Luncheon & EPA Farmer to Farmer Announcement**

Key Message: Office of Water Assistance Administrator David Ross and EPA Region 7 Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will host a Farmer to Farmer Cooperative Grant announcement for the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, the University of Iowa, and Practical Farmers of Iowa during the Iowa Environmental Awards luncheon at the state fair Wednesday, August 14, 2019.

- The Iowa Environmental Awards Ceremony is sponsored by the Governor's Office, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Department of Natural Resources.
- The award recognizes farmers for their proactive management and leadership; incorporating environmental stewardship and protection of natural resources into their farming operation. Since creation of the award in 2012, more than 600 farm families have been recognized.
- During the ceremony, awards will be presented by Governor Kim Reynolds, Lt. Governor Adam Gregg, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig and Department of Natural Resources Director Kayla Lyon.

#### **Meskwaki Signing Ceremony**

Key Message: On August 15, 2019, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford and Deputy Regional Administrator Ed Chu will participate in the Meskwaki's TAS signing ceremony in Tama, Iowa.

**Hot Topics****EPA proposes to reclassify Denver-area ozone status to "Serious" nonattainment**

On August 8, the R8 Administrator proposed to determine that the Denver Metro/Northern Front Range ozone nonattainment area did not meet the Clean Air Act 2008 NAAQS standard within the timeframe established for Moderate ozone nonattainment areas. The proposal is to reclassify, or "bump up," the area to a higher nonattainment status, in this case from Moderate to Serious. The Denver-area has been classified as a Moderate nonattainment area for the 2008 ozone NAAQS since 2016.

**New Data Show Pollution from British Columbia Mines Extends to Kootenai River Downstream of Lake Koocanusa**

Results from a recently completed EPA-funded study shows elevated selenium in water and exceedances of EPA and Idaho fish tissue standards for selenium. Nitrate is also elevated compared to data from 15 years ago. This is sensitive as it contradicts the previous narrative that mining pollution impacts in the US are limited to Lake Koocanusa. This will likely prompt particular concern from the US Kootenai Tribes (Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, who participated in the sampling effort, and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes in Montana). There has been recent Congressional and International Joint Commission engagement on transboundary mining issues, including a meeting in Alaska earlier this week with Senators Murkowski and Sullivan and the 3 US International Joint Commissioners. USGS is targeting a release of the data for the end of August. R8 is coordinating the development of a communication strategy to ensure that the study results and key messages are delivered to all interested stakeholders.

**PFAS Contamination is Discovered at Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District, Boulder County, Colorado**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination has been found at the Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District's fire station and two nearby residences. Samples collected on March 22, 2019, at the fire station and two residences had combined PFOA/PFOS concentrations of 280 ppt to 2,053 ppt. The EPA's lifetime health advisory for PFOA/PFOS is 70 ppt. CDPHE was notified last week of the situation and informed the Region. Residents of the homes have been notified of the sample results and are currently using an alternate water supply. The fire station was on bottled water prior to sampling. R8's assistance has been requested to support sample collection, the development of a sampling plan, and participation in a public meeting within the next several weeks. CDPHE will provide funding to Boulder County Health Department to secure a contract with a laboratory to cover the analytical costs for approximately 50 to 60 samples of private wells in the area.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events****Colorado Smelter Tour/Stakeholder Meetings**

Next week the RA will be touring the Colorado Smelter Superfund site and meeting with various stakeholders including the Mayor of Pueblo, the Pueblo City Council, Congressional Representatives, County Commissioners, and the Community Advisory Group. A media availability session will be included.

**Hot Topics****Mexican Border:**

Tijuana wastewater: NADBank will release its report regarding options for managing wastewater flows on August 19<sup>th</sup>. OITA AA McIntosh and R9 RA Stoker will meet with local stakeholders in San Diego Monday August 26, and tour key Tijuana locations the following day.

Nogales wastewater: we met with Arizona DEQ, IBWC, and NADBank leadership in Phoenix to advance agreement on the scope, phasing, and funding of the Nogales International Outfall Interceptor (IOI) rehabilitation. Breaches in the IOI have led to contamination of the Nogales Wash and several areas are in dire need of repair. The total cost of the project is about \$40M. Rehabilitation of the most critical areas will take two years to complete.

**Council on Environmental Quality**

Chairman Mary Neumayr and CEQ staff will meet with Region 9 senior managers regarding our NEPA portfolio (25% of EPA's total NEPA workload) August 15, and then tour the Monterey One water reuse/water treatment facilities August 16. We will also meet with the NOAA Sanctuary executives and Monterey Bay aquatic research organization (MBARI) to discuss marine debris.

**Hawaii**

RA Stoker will meet next week in Honolulu with Gov. Ige, Honolulu Mayor Caldwell, our State colleagues at the Departments of Health and Land/Natural Resources. He will focus on agriculture in meeting with the NRCS State Director, Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture, and Hawaii Farm Bureau. He will meet with the staff of Sen. Hirono and Cong. Gabbard, as well as State Sen. Keith-Agaran.

**Tribes:**

Superfund Director Enrique Manzanilla will host Doug Benevento from August 12 to August 16 on the Navajo Nation, touring several areas where the ongoing assessment and clean up of over 200 abandoned uranium mine sites is underway (from west of Albuquerque NM to Flagstaff AZ). They will also meet with Navajo Nation government officials in Window Rock, the seat of the Navajo Nation.

Colorado River Indian Tribes: Enforcement Director Amy Miller, and ORA senior managers Laura Ebbert and Alexis Strauss will meet with the Colorado River Indian Tribal Council in Parker, AZ to reaffirm EPA's role in regulating facilities in Indian County, and clarify earlier confusion about State jurisdiction in the town of Parker.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Nothing to report this week.

**Hot Topics**

Nothing to report this week.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events****Press Release announcing settlements re: Kensington Mine operations (AK)**

Today Region 10 will announce EPA has reached three settlements with Coeur Alaska, Inc., over discharge violations from its gold mining operation at Kensington Mine, located 45 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska. As part of the agreement, Coeur Alaska will pay three separate penalties totaling \$534,500: a \$240,000 penalty for violations of their individual National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for industrial wastewater discharges, a \$210,000 penalty for violations of the Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity ; and a \$84,500 penalty for failure to report releases of nitrate compounds under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, more commonly known as the Toxic Release Inventory.

**GAO to review Hanford Tank Waste Retrieval and Closure**

Region 10 will participate in GAO's engagement on the Department of Energy's work to close Hanford's underground storage tanks. Issues to be addressed include (1) the status of tank closures, and DOE's plans for closing them; (2) research and development DOE has done on tank closure and lessons that may be applied from other sites and other countries tank closures; and (3) the costs and risks associated with tank closure. As Region 4 and its Savannah River Site Project Office will also be engaged, it appears that GAO is interested in considering whether that site tank closure plans and practices should be utilized at Hanford.

**Healthy Schools Newsletter August Issue Features Energy Star**

Region 10 will publish the next issue of Healthy School News in mid-August. This back-to-school edition features Energy Star Treasure Hunts for schools, national PEYA and Teacher award winners, and more. Over 6,000 school contacts in the region receive the newsletter several times per year. The publication seeks to provide resources and information to help create healthier school environments for healthier kids.

**PFAS Monitoring in NW Alaska**

The Maniilaq Association has submitted a Quality Assurance Project Plan concerning potential PFAS sampling in their region in Alaska. The plan is to augment the Association's Qualified Sampler training scheduled for August 26-29 to include PFAS water sample collection. The training participants will then return to their communities to work with their drinking water operators to collect laboratory samples from their raw-water supply sources for PFAS analysis.



### **Hot Topics**

- **Packages for Signature:**

- Auto and Light-Duty Trucks; Misc. Metal Parts; Plastic Parts; Large Appliances, Metal Furniture; and Fabric Printing RTR (Proposed Rule)
- Light Duty Greenhouse Gas Program Technical Amendments (Final Rule)
- General Provisions Amendments to 40 CFR Part 62: Incorporation by Reference of State Plans (Direct Final Rule and Parallel Proposed Rule)
- Miscellaneous Coating Manufacturing RTR (Proposed Rule)
- Amendments Related to Marine Diesel Engine Emission Standards (Proposed Rule)
- Lime Manufacturing Plants RTR (Proposed Rule)
- MSW Landfills Emission Guidelines Subpart Ba Requirements (Final Rule)
- Federal Plan Requirements for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills That Commenced Construction Commenced on or Before July 17, 2014, and Have Not Been Modified or Reconstructed Since July 17, 2014 (Proposed Rule)

- **Packages at OMB for Review:**

- Vehicle Test Procedure Adjustments for Tier 3 Test Fuel (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/2019)
- Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Modification of Statutory Volume Targets / RFS Reset (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/20/2019)
- Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Sources; Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in Utah (Region 8 Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/23/2019)
- Guidance on Regional Haze State Implementation Plans for the Second Implementation Period (Final Guidance; RECEIVED DATE: 6/10/2019)
- Oil & Natural Gas Sector Emission Standards for new Reconstructed & Modified Sources Review (Proposed Rule: RECEIVED DATE: 6/10/2019)
- Ethylene Production RTR (Proposed Rule: RECEIVED DATE 7/12/2019)
- Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule for Model Years 2021-2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks (Final Rule: RECEIVED DATE 8/2/2019)
- Organic Liquids Distribution (OLD) RTR (Proposed Rule: RECEIVED DATE 8/2/2019)

- **Packages Heading to OMB Soon**

- Strat Ozone - Section 608 Refrigerant Management – Revisions (Final Rule)
- MON RTR (Proposed Rule)
- MATS Coal Refuse-Fired Units Review (Final Rule)

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Nothing to report this week.

**Hot Topics****Proposition 65 Letter on Glyphosate**

OCSPP will soon write glyphosate registrants requesting submission of draft amended labeling to remove California Prop 65 warning language based exclusively on the fact that a pesticide contains glyphosate. Given EPA's determination that glyphosate is "not likely to be carcinogenic to humans," EPA considers the Prop 65 language to be a false and misleading statement and misbranding under FIFRA.

**Manufacturer Requested Risk Evaluations**

On May 24, 2019, OCSPP received manufacturer requests for conduct risk evaluations of diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP) and diisononyl phthalate (DINP) through the American Chemistry Council's High Phthalates Panel. OCSPP will open public dockets and a 45-day public comment period for them during the week of August 19. Each docket contains the manufacturer request, EPA's proposed additional conditions of use, and the basis for including those proposed additions. OCSPP is encouraging comments on any information not included in the manufacturer requests that commenters believe would be needed for a risk evaluation. After the comment period, EPA has up to 60 days to grant or deny the manufacturer request.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events****Paraquat Risk Assessments**

On August 12, OPP will release the Paraquat draft human health and ecological risks assessments for a 60-day public comment. The draft human health assessment identifies potential risks to workers who apply paraquat or enter treated fields after application. There are also potential risks from spray drift to bystanders at the edge of a field being treated. The draft ecological risk assessment identifies potential risks to mammals, birds, adult honey bees, terrestrial plants, and algae. After reviewing public comments, EPA will determine whether updates or revisions to the assessments are necessary. EPA will also propose additional risk mitigation measures, if necessary, in 2020 via its Registration Review Proposed Interim Decision. EPA anticipates publishing the Interim Decision in late 2021 after considering public comments on the Proposed Interim Decision.

**Proposal of TSCA Low-Priority Substances**

The week of August 12, OCSPP will announce and seek public comment on the proposed designation of 20 chemicals as Low-Priority Substances. To support the designations, OCSPP considered reasonably available information for each chemical substance under its conditions of use against the criteria specified in TSCA §6(b)(1)(A). A "low-priority" designation means that risk evaluation is not currently warranted. For each of the 20 chemical substances, OCSPP will provide a docket containing the screening review and rationale for the designation. The FRN will initiate a 90-day public comment period.

### **Hot Topics**

- Each AA and RA must submit his or her signed assurance letter to OCFO by August 16. These letters support the Administrator's statement of assurance due to the President and Congress.
- On August 7, OCFO issued planning and budget guidance to the agency's policy and resource management communities to develop the materials for the OMB Submission (due to OMB September 9).
- OCFO continues to work with OCIR, OGC, and the programs to prepare responses to the SAC, HAC, and HEC QFRs.
- OCFO is working on updating fact sheets for the Administrator's Hearing before the House Science Committee in September.

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

- OGC and OCFO are scheduled to brief the Administrator on August 12 on an Anti-Deficiency Act issue related to voluntary services.
- OCFO is scheduled to brief the Acting Deputy Administrator on August 19 regarding proposed changes to Annual Performance Goals and targets for the FY 2021 OMB Budget Submission.
- On August 23, Holly Greaves will participate in a panel discussion on "Navigating Budgets and Reducing Risk with Diverse Stakeholders" at the Cyber Security Hub's Chief Information Security Officer Exchange in Washington DC at that Georgetown Marriott. The event brings together technology leaders across industries for in-depth discussions and exchanges of experience and ideas to address the emerging landscape of digital business in a digital economy.
- OCFO received senior leader responses to the 2019 Enterprise Risk Ranking Survey issued by the CFO on July 19. Briefing being scheduled for the Administrator on the results and to present a decision memorandum on proposed new agencywide enterprise risks.

### **Other**

- OCFO will submit EPA FY 2019 Quarter 3 Agency Priority Goal Action Plan updates to OMB on August 9. All six APGs met third quarter targets, with five of six APGs on track to meet two-year results.
- The Office of Public Affairs is reviewing the updated *FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan* that includes the revised strategic goal statements reflecting the Administrator's decisions as well as associated messaging changes. Next steps include an OMB courtesy review and issuance of the revised *Plan* on EPA's website. Revised goal statements will be included in the FY 2021 OMB Submission.

**Hot Topics**

Nothing to report this week.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

- **Aug 13** - EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds and OIR will co-host a briefing for the Big 10 intergovernmental associations as well as State/local water professional groups on the forthcoming revisions to regulations governing the agency's exercise of authority under Clean Water Act (CWA) 404©.
- **Aug 14** – Sen. Baldwin (WI) staff call regarding water technology and innovation w/OW, ORD
- **Aug 14** - National Environmental Justice Public Teleconference Meeting
- **Aug 15** - EPA will hold a public hearing on the reclassification of major sources as area sources (MM2A) proposal at HQ. More information can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/forms/public-hearing-proposed-reclassification-major-sources-area>
- **Aug 14 (tent.)** – HTI briefing request on Pappas PFAS ELG bill w/OW

### **Hot Topics**

#### **Clean Air Act Oil and Gas Capacity Building in Alaska**

At the request of the state of Alaska and Region 10, OECA participated in the inspection of three large oil and gas facilities on the North Slope of Alaska. The inspections included an evaluation of compliance with the Standards of Performance for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities. OECA's participation was part of an effort by Region 10 to build New Source Performance Standards capacity in Alaska.

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

On August 13, 2019, OECA's Air Enforcement Division will speak to state air agencies through the Ozone Transport Commission. OECA will share information on the problem of tampering and aftermarket defeat devices, describe how EPA enforcement and compliance efforts are addressing the problem, and seek input from the audience about these issues and about potential complementary efforts on the state level.

### **Hot Topics**

***A Community Voice v. EPA*, No. 19-71930 (9th Cir. filed August 1, 2019).**

New Litigation: Plaintiffs petitioned the Ninth Circuit for review of the rulemaking on the Dust-Lead Hazard Standards and the Definition of Lead-Based Paint under TSCA, which was published at 84 Fed. Reg. 32,632 (July 9, 2019). The petition is filed under TSCA Section 19 and the APA.

***Lulac, et al. v. Andrew Wheeler, et al.*, No. 19-71979 (9th Cir. filed August 7, 2019).**

New Litigation: Earthjustice filed a petition for review of EPA's Order Denying Objections under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act section 408(h)(1). The Petitioners are challenging both the Objections denial that the Agency issued on July 18, 2019 (published on July 24, 2019), as well as the March 2017 Petition denial. Petitioners are seeking en banc review in the Ninth Circuit. Petitioners will also be seeking to amend the related case, *LULAC, et al. v. Andrew Wheeler, et al.*, No. 17-71636 (9th Cir. filed August 9, 2018), to add the challenge to the Objections denial in that case.

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Nothing to report this week.

**Hot Topics****GAO Audit on EPA's Tribal Grant Programs**

OITA, along with tribal coordinator staff from headquarters and regional offices, hosted a GAO Entrance Interview on a new GAO audit is to examine EPA's environmental grant programs for tribes. This new audit is part of a series of audits focusing on tribal issues and will be the last in this series. The lead requester is Chairman Raul Grijalva of the House Committee on Natural Resources and former Ranking Member Raul Ruiz of the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs, as well as 23 other House members. This audit is in its initially scoping phase and GAO has submitted some initial questions that OITA is coordinating responses to with the other offices. The GAO anticipates completion of this audit in 2020.

**Our Ocean Conference Interagency Meeting**

The State Department held an interagency meeting on preparations for the Our Ocean Conference that Norway is hosting in Oslo from October 23-24<sup>th</sup>. The Undersecretary for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment, Keith Krach, plans to lead the US delegation to this event where issues such as marine plastics, illegal fishing, ocean acidification, marine protected areas and sustainable blue economy will be highlighted. High level officials from around the world will share large funding commitments toward these issues. In addition to the State Department, NOAA, USAID and NASA are expected to announce large funding commitments on marine litter, fisheries and biodiversity.

**Lead Paint Briefing for Department of Commerce**

EPA (OITA, OCSPP) conducted a lead paint briefing for U.S. Commercial Service Officers from thirteen countries in Africa and the Middle East. The U.S. Commercial Service is the trade promotion arm of the Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration. The U.S. Commercial Service helps U.S. companies get started in exporting or increasing sales to new global markets. EPA's efforts to help establish lead paint laws in developing countries through the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint were of great interest as an example of the development of harmonized technical regulations using international best practices. Two thirds of the countries represented by the Commercial Officers do not have lead paint laws and this is an opportunity to work with Commerce to promote international action on lead paint.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

August 16 – As a follow up to the meeting with Administrator Wheeler on July 12, EPA has organized a conference call with **One More Generation, Recycle Across America and North American Association of Environmental Education** to discuss collaboration on marine litter and environmental education.

## **Hot Topics**

### **Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)**

- CCR Phase 2 proposed rule (package 1) – The package was signed by the Administrator on July 29. We anticipate FR publication soon.
- CCR permitting NPRM – We anticipate submitting this soon to OP for OMB review.
- CCR litigation packages (package 2, parts A and B) – On August 6, OMB review began on part A. We anticipate part B going to OMB soon.

### **Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP)**

We are working towards getting the rule package to OP for OMB review in August.

### **Ongoing major Superfund NPL sites**

We are working with Region 1 on Centredale, Region 2 on Woodbrook Road, Region 4 on Oak Ridge, Region 8 on Anaconda Smelter, and Region 10 on Portland Harbor and Quendell Terminal.

### **CERCLA 108(b) Financial Assurance (next three sectors)**

Industry 1 was published in the FR on July 29. The public comment period ends on September 27, 2019.

### **Aerosol Cans Final Rule**

The rule package is with the workgroup for review. Workgroup Closure is expected on August 13.

### **PFAS**

- PFOA and PFOS contaminated groundwater guidance. OLEM is developing potential options for next steps on the guidance in consideration of the public comments. We anticipate an option selection meeting taking place in early September.
- Designation of PFOA/PFOS as CERCLA Hazardous Substances NPRM. The final agency review (FAR) package is expected to go to the workgroup by August 12; FAR is scheduled for August 19.

## **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

### **EPA/DOE/ECOS Dialogue**

On August 13 and 14, Steven Cook and OLEM staff will participate in this meeting in Paducah, KY.

### **Business Review**

OLEM's monthly business review meeting is scheduled for August 15.

### **Clean Water Act Hazardous Substances Spill Prevention (SPLASHs) Final Rule**

OMB determined the rule to be non-significant; as such, we are working on the signature package and getting materials ready for submittal to the docket. We anticipate the rule package moving to OP for signature the week of August 12.

### **Tribal Lands and Environment Forum**

The week of August 19, Peter Wright and several OLEM managers and staff will participate in this forum in Palm Springs, CA.



### **Hot Topics**

Nothing to report this week.

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

#### **Region 6 Mission Support Meeting Next Week**

The Office of Mission Support senior leadership will meet with Regions 6 next week to conduct their IT portfolio review, discussion relevant mission support business topics, and meet with local union representatives. This is part of a national campaign to engage every region and program office to identify potential efficiencies, opportunities for enhancements, savings and areas for collaboration across the spectrum of OMS services. While in Region 6 they will tour the new regional space.

#### **Grosse Ile**

Region 5 and CID employees located at the Grosse Ile facility are scheduled to relocate to the Ann Arbor facility on the week of August 19. The Office of Mission Support will continue to maintain the facility at a minimal level (heat, security, pest control, etc.) until GSA turns it over to a new owner. A timeline of events supporting the move is shown below:

- August 9: Completion of furniture installation for the Ann Arbor space (porta-fabs).
- Week of August 12: Health and safety sampling, performed by a Region 5 H&S official, at the Ann Arbor porta fabs is scheduled.
- August 14: Fish and Wildlife will complete their move out of the Grosse Ile facility.
- August 22: Region 5 and CID employees move to the Ann Arbor facility.
- Week of August 26: Removal of excess property from Grosse Ile.
- September 4: OMS, ORD, and GSA will meet at Grosse Ile to finalize all requirements to begin the disposition process.

#### **Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Human Capital Management Evaluation (HCME)**

Following the August onsite Headquarters HCME, OPM will conduct an out-brief with CHCO, Deputy CHCO, OHR and SSCs on August 15th. OPM will issue their report to agency approximately 80 days following the out-brief. On August 7, while on-site during daily meetings, OPM informally shared a few takeaways from employee and manager interviews, indicating a need for increased communication of HR program information; such as, available Workforce Dashboards, awards process information, and positive comments on training and development opportunities (particularly with leadership development and Skills Marketplace).

**Hot Topics****National Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting**

On August 14, the Office of Environmental Justice will host a public teleconference meeting for the NEJAC focused on several topics, including the discussion and deliberation of final letters that address EJ concerns raised during the Spring 2019 NEJAC public meeting; a presentation from ORD on research funding; and an update from OPA on the Agency's risk communications efforts.

**Environmental Justice Report and Training**

On August 13, the Office of Environmental Justice expects to release EPA's FY18 Environmental Justice Progress report along with a revised "EJ 101" training that will be required for new EPA employees and available to the public.

**Local Foods, Local Places in Illinois**

On August 12-13, Office of Community Revitalization staff will be in Mount Pulaski, Illinois to help plan a local food hub, food co-op, and community garden on an underused empty lot to revitalize the downtown business district and support surrounding farms.

**Environmental Economics Presentation**

On August 14, National Center for Environmental Economics staff will present a seminar on computable general equilibrium modeling for economists at the U.S. International Trade Commission.

**Active Interagency Reviews from OMB**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>EPA Internal Due Date</b>	<b>OMB Due Date</b>
State IFRM: Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Consolidation of Definitions and Restructuring of Part 120 – Purposes and Definitions	08/08/2019	08/09/2019
DOD/DARS ANPRM: Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Validation of Proprietary and Technical Data (DFARS Case 2018-D069)	08/09/2019	08/12/2019
HUD NPRM: Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing	08/12/2019	08/13/2019
DHS/FEMA & NRC Guidance: Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants” (NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Rev. 2)	08/15/2019	08/16/2019
DOC/NIST Guidance: Special Publication 800-18 version 2, Guide for Developing System Security Plans	08/20/2019	08/21/2019
HUD FRM: Conforming the Acceptable	08/27/2019	08/28/2019

Separation Distance (ASD) Standards for Residential Propane Tanks to Industry Standards		
DoD/ACE NPRM (Pass-back): Natural Disaster Procedures: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Activities of the Corps of Engineers	N/A	N/A

#### Documents Sent to the OFR from August 1 – 7, 2019

FRL #	Title	Date Sent to FR
9997-25-OCSPP	Bromopropane (1-BP); Draft Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Risk Evaluation and TSCA Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC) Meetings; Notice of Availability and Public Meetings	08-07-2019
9998-14-OAR	Alternative Methods for Calculating Off-cycle Credits under the Light-duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emissions Program: Applications from Hyundai Motor Company and Kia Motors Corporation	08-07-2019
9998-13-OAR	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Site Remediation Residual Risk and Technology Review	08-07-2019
9992-80-OCSPP	Certain New Chemicals; Receipt and Status Information for June 2019	08-06-2019
9997-00-OCSPP	Propiconazole; Pesticide Tolerances	08-06-2019
9997-09-OCSPP	Pydiflumetofen; Pesticide Tolerances	08-06-2019
9997-85-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; KY; Jefferson County Existing and New Miscellaneous Metal Parts and Products Surface Coating Operations	08-06-2019
9997-97-Region 3	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard	08-06-2019
9997-24-OCSPP	Certain New Chemicals or Significant New Uses; Statements of Findings for June 2019	08-06-2019
9997-71-OCSPP	Nominations to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel; Request for Comments	08-06-2019

9997-83-Region 5	WISCONSIN: Notice of Determination of Adequacy of Wisconsin's Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) Permit Provisions for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills (MSWLF).	08-06-2019
9997-73- OCSPP	Significant New Use Rules for Certain Chemical Substances (19-4.B)	08-06-2019
9998-01-Region 9	Air Plan Approval; Hawaii; Regional Haze Progress Report	08-06-2019
9998-04-Region 9	Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Approval and Promulgations; Hawaii; Infrastructure SIP	08-06-2019
9997-57-OAR	Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Adjustments to the Allowance System for Controlling HCFC Production and Import, 2020-2030, and Other Updates	08-05-2019
9997-89-Region 1	Air Plan Approval; Massachusetts; Transport Element for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard	08-05-2019
9997-95-OAR	Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NSR): Project Emissions Accounting	08-05-2019
9997-99-Region 3	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Partial Deletion of the Novak Sanitary Landfill Superfund Site	08-05-2019
9997-43-Region 7	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Partial Deletion of the Shaw Avenue Dump Superfund Site	08-02-2019
9997-76-OA	Request for Nominations of Consultants to Support the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) for the Particulate Matter and Ozone Reviews	08-02-2019
9997-72-Region 6	Air Plan Approval; Arkansas; Interstate Transport Requirements for the 2010 1-Hour SO2 NAAQS	2019-08-02
9997-74-OLEM	Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities; Enhancing Public Access to Information; Reconsideration of Beneficial Use Criteria and Piles	08-02-2019
9997-58-Region 6	Air Plan Approval; Texas; Control of Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles	08-02-2019
9996-71- OCSPP	Pesticide Experimental Use Permit; Receipt of Application; Comment	08-01-2019

	Request	
9996-77-OCSP	Pesticide Product Registration; Receipt of Applications for New Uses	08-01-2019
9997-59-Region 2	Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New York; Cross-State Air Pollution Rule; NOx Ozone Season Group 2, NOx Annual, and SO2 Group 1 Trading Programs	08-01-2019
9997-66-Region 9	Partial approval, partial disapproval and limited approval, limited disapproval of Arizona Air Plan Revisions, Pinal County Air Quality Control District	08-01-2019
9997-84-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; North Carolina: PSD Requirements for GHGs	08-01-2019
9997-75-OA	Notification of a Public Teleconference of the Science Advisory Board Computable General Equilibrium Model Review Panel	08-01-2019
9997-77-OA	Notification of a Public Teleconference of the Chartered Science Advisory Board	08-01-2019

### **Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Nothing to report this week.

**Hot Topics****Research Supporting Superfund Site in Colorado**

ORD is working with Region 8 on a Regional State Innovation Project case study to support a large Superfund Project in the Bonita Peak Mining District in Colorado. Abandoned, or non-active, hardrock mines in the west can discharge acid mine drainage which has resulted in water quality impairments along thousands of miles of streams, rivers, and lakes. Periodic surge events from underground workings can cause acute impacts to aquatic life and surface water and can result in habitat destruction. Field surveys will identify zones of groundwater – surface water interaction for detailed monitoring to be conducted during September 2019. These data will then be used to protect the zones from subsurface mine waste entering the river.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events****Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry Focus Conference: Environmental Risk Assessment of PFAS: Durham, NC, August 12- 15, 2019**

This meeting will bring together academic, industry and governmental research communities to present recent advances in chemistry, environmental fate and exposure, human and ecological toxicity, and risk characterization of PFAS chemicals. The objective of the meeting is to review new and emerging information on PFASs and to formulate a roadmap for a risk assessment approach for PFAS. ORD leadership and scientists will be participating.

**Region 2 States Meeting**

Next week ORD leadership will meet with the Region 2 States & Territories and Rhode Island Environmental and Health Leadership at ORD's Atlantic Ecology Division in Narragansett, RI. This is an opportunity for ORD to hear from states and territories about the challenges they're facing in the field, as well as for them to learn about ORD's capabilities and research that support EPA regions, states and territories. Topics will include PFAS, resiliency, nutrients and harmful algal blooms, and drinking water and wastewater treatment—followed by a short lab tour. The goal is to determine how ORD can better assist Region 2 states & territories and Rhode Island with their science and technical needs, and discuss research priorities.

**Full Scale Exercise to validate the ORD's drinking water analytical method for the plague microorganism**

ORD's Rapid Viability-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RV-PCR) method for detection of *Yersinia pestis* in drinking water samples is being validated in the EPA OW/Water Security Division's (WSD) - Water Laboratory Alliance Full-Scale Exercise. ORD and OW are collaborating in this multi-laboratory study. A total of ten public health laboratories, who are members of the Association of Public Health Laboratories, are participating in this study. These labs are following the Rapid Viability-PCR method as delineated in ORD's Protocol for Detection of *Yersinia pestis* in Environmental Samples During the Remediation Phase of a Plague Incident. Preliminary exercise results indicate that the method could be implemented in all ten laboratories. The validation is expected to be complete by the end of August.

**Hot Topics****Draft National Water Reuse Action Plan**

As early as next week, OW anticipates sending to OMB for interagency review the draft National Water Reuse Action Plan. In February the EPA announced it would facilitate the development of an action plan to better integrate federal policy and leverage the expertise of both industry and government to ensure the effective use of the nation's water resources. The purpose of the action plan is to accelerate the application of water reuse as a safe, reliable, and sustainable way to meet the country's current and future water demands. OMB has agreed to an abbreviated review schedule, which is expected to finish by August 23. Assistant Administrator David Ross and the federal partners will present the action plan as part of a panel discussion on September 10 at the WaterReuse Conference in San Diego, CA.

**WIFIA - City of Hillsboro Loan Closing**

On August 16, the EPA anticipates closing a loan with the City of Hillsboro, OR. The Administrator's signature is required on the loan agreement and term sheet before the loan closes. The amount of financing requested is \$250.5 million and this loan will help to finance the Willamette Water Supply System, a joint project with the City of Hillsboro and Tualatin Valley Water District. The public announcement will follow soon after the loan closes.

**Stakeholder Engagement Meetings for the Proposed Rulemaking Under 40 CFR Part 231: CWA Section 404(c) Procedures**

On August 13, the OW will conduct a stakeholder engagement meeting with the Big 10 (in-house). On August 14, OW will host an engagement meeting (via webinar) with the Tribes. In early September, OW will hold an additional webinar for states and local entities. The purpose of these meetings is to understand stakeholder perspectives related to the CWA Section 404(c) Rulemaking. Comments will be accepted through September 13. This information will be used to help shape and guide potential revisions to the rule. Deputy Assistant Administrator Lee Forsgren and several OW program support staff will attend all three stakeholder engagement meetings.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events****Farmer to Farmer (F2F)**

On August 14, Mr. Ross will attend the EPA Farmer to Farmer & Gulf Task Force Grant Announcement at the Iowa State Fair. During this event, Mr. Ross will recognize the three Farmer to Farmer (F2F) grantees from Iowa, as well as announce Hypoxia Task Force funding (\$1.2 million) to the 12 task force states. This event will directly follow the Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Awards. Open press.

**Nutrient Finance Forum**

On August 14, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator Anna Wildeman will attend the Innovative Financing Strategies for Reducing Nutrients Forum. Ms. Wildeman will provide opening remarks and speak on the Call to Action about the EPA's approach for funding nutrient reductions. Closed press.